

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: SAWDY, Michael Barry

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EXAMINER: Nelson Jr, M.

TITLE: VEHICLE FITTING

Amendment C: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 - 48 (canceled).

49. (Currently amended) A fitting assembly for a motor vehicle comprising:

a support frame suitable for securement to a floor of the motor vehicle, said support frame having a guide at a top thereof;

a seat squab affixed to said support frame;

a seat back mounting affixed to said support frame;

a backrest interconnected to said ~~support frame, said backrest having a guide at a top thereof~~ seat back mounting, said seat squab being moveable between a first position in which said seat squab projects forwardly from said support frame and a second position in which said seat squab does not obstruct a space in front of said backrest;

a mounting means connecting said backrest to said seat back mounting, said mounting means for enabling said backrest to move from a rearward position to a forward position in which said backrest is moved forwardly so as to be spaced from said seat back mounting; and

at least one seat belt connected to said support frame, said seat belt passing through said guide.

50. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 49, said seat squab having a pair of mounting fingers and a pair of mounting lugs, said support frame having a pair of formations respectively receiving said pair of mounting fingers and a pair of hooks respectively engaging said pair of mounting lugs.

51. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 49, said mounting means comprising a plurality of pivot links.

52. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 51, said plurality of pivot links comprising a pair of upper pivot links and a pair of lower pivot links, one of each of said pairs of upper pivot links and lower pivot links being affixed to said one side of said seat back mounting, another of each of said pair of upper pivot links and lower pivot links being affixed to another side of said seat back mounting.

53. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 51, each of said plurality of pivot links comprising a pair of straight arms that are interconnected.

54. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 49, said mounting means being an over-dead-center mechanism.

55. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 54, said over-dead-center mechanism comprising:

a drive bar passing through slots formed in a pair of spaced-apart plates on said backrest, said drive bar being mounted on at least one arm which is pivotally mounted to said support frame, said drive bar movable in an arcuate pattern.

56. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 55, further comprising:

a handle connected to the arm.

57. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 49, further comprising:

a motor means operatively connected to said backrest for moving said backrest forwardly.

58. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 49, said backrest pivotable about a horizontal axis when in said first position.

59. (Currently amended) A fitting assembly for a motor vehicle comprising:

a support frame suitable for securement to a floor of the motor vehicle, said support frame having a base plate;

a seat squab affixed to said support frame;

a seat back mounting affixed to said support frame;

a backrest ~~interconnected to said support frame~~ affixed to said seat back mounting, said seat squab being moveable between a first position in which said seat squab projects forwardly from said support frame and a second position in which seat squab does not obstruct a space in front of said backrest, said support frame being mounted on rollers suitable for lateral movement;

a platform mounted to said base plate, said base plate having at least one projection extending downwardly therefrom, said platform having at least one channel formed therein, the projection being engaged with the channel; and

a band extending over the channel, the channel having a guide at one end thereof, said band extending from said base plate to said guide, said band passing through a passage formed under said platform.

60. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 59, further comprising:

a clamp affixed to said base plate so as to hold said base plate in a position.

61. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 59, further comprising:

a motor connected to said base plate for driving said base plate relative to said platform.

62. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 59, said backrest having a wide upper portion and a narrow lower portion.

63. (Currently amended) A fitting assembly for a motor vehicle for use with a wheelchair that has a pair of handles extending rearwardly of a back thereof, the fitting assembly comprising:

a wheelchair having a pair of handles extending rearwardly of a back thereof;

a backrest having an unobstructed space in front thereof; ~~said backrest being generally planar;~~

a support frame suitable for securement to a floor of the motor vehicle, said support frame supporting said backrest;

a seat back mounting affixed to said support frame, said seat back mounting having a guide at a top thereof, said backrest having a broad portion at a top thereof and a narrow portion at a bottom thereof, said back of said wheelchair residing against said backrest, said pair of handles positioned respectively adjacent opposite sides of said narrow portion, ~~said backrest having a guide at a top thereof;~~ and

at least one seat belt connected to said support frame, said seat belt passing through said guide.

64. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 63, further comprising:

a seat squab removably mounted to said support frame in a position adjacent said backrest.

65. (Currently amended) The fitting assembly of Claim 63, said seat belt comprising at least two seat belts mounted to said support frame; ~~said guide comprising at least two guides at said top of said backrest~~, the seat belts respectively passing through the guide.

66. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 63, said backrest being mounted on said seat back mounting, said fitting assembly further comprising:

a means for moving said backrest forwardly from a rearward position to a forward position, said backrest being spaced from said seat back mounting in said forward position.

67. (Previously presented) The fitting assembly of Claim 66, said seat back mounting being mounted to said support frame by a yieldable connection, said yieldable connection suitable for yielding when subjected to a predetermined force.

68. (Currently amended) The fitting assembly of Claim 67, said support frame having a first torsion plate in an upper part thereof, ~~said~~ and a second torsion plate in a lower part thereof, said first and second torsion plates being interconnected so as to form said yieldable connection.